

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8

By Black

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Dr. Hal Ramer for 30 years of laudable service to Volunteer State Community College and the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, It is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those citizens who through their extraordinary efforts have distinguished themselves as academic and community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, One such noteworthy person is Dr. Hal Ramer, who has served with acumen and alacrity as the Founding President of Volunteer State Community College since July 1, 1970 ; and

WHEREAS, A native of Kenton, Tennessee, Dr. Ramer garnered a Bachelor of Science degree in 1947 from the prestigious George Peabody College and a Master of Science degree from the University of Tennessee in 1952 before going on to earn his Ph.D. in higher education administration in 1963 from The Ohio State University, where he then served for ten years in various positions; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hal Ramer fought valiantly for this country in World War II as a member of the distinguished U.S. Army Air Corps; he later attained the rank of Colonel and Assistant Chief of Staff in the Tennessee Defense Force State Headquarters, Department of Military; and

WHEREAS, Prior to his tenure at Volunteer State, Dr. Ramer was an Assistant Commissioner for Higher Education with the Department of Education in which position he served as head of the governing board for the six state regional universities, the community college system, and the technical institutes; he assisted the Commissioner of Education and the State Board of Education in establishing the statewide system of community colleges and received the Department of Education's Distinguished Service Award in 1970; and

WHEREAS, His myriad additional activities and accomplishments- almost too numerous to count- include being President and member of the Executive Committee of the Tennessee College Association, Chairman of the Tennessee Fulbright-Hays Scholarship Committee, member of the Presidents' Council of the Board of Regents, member of the Board of Directors of the local chapters of the United Way and the American Red Cross, Chairman of the Council of Presidents of State Community Colleges of Tennessee, National Alumni President and Board of Trustees Member of George Peabody College, and organizer and active force in The Ohio State Alumni Club of Middle Tennessee; Dr. Ramer has also delivered commencement addresses for Middle Tennessee State University, Martin College, David Lipscomb University, Aquinas College, and Tennessee Technological University; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his impressive work with Volunteer State Community College, Dr. Hal Ramer still finds time to lend his remarkable talents to such notable causes as The Rotary Club. He is a Paul Harris Fellow and was selected Rotarian of the Year in Gallatin, 1978-79; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ramer is also a member of the Executive Board of the Middle Tennessee Council of the Boy Scouts of America, and is extremely active in religious and civic affairs, maintaining membership in the Administrative Board of Belmont United Methodist Church, the University Club of Nashville, the Tennessee Academy of Science, and the Knights of Pythias, to name just a few; and

WHEREAS, Some of the most notable of his numerous awards and accolades include the Service to Mankind Award from the Hendersonville Noon Sertoma Club in 1995-96, the 1996 Distinguished Alumnus Award from Peabody College of Vanderbilt University, a Presidential Service Award from the American Association of Community Colleges in 1999, and the 1999 Otis Floyd, Jr. Statewide Award for Excellence in Administration from the Tennessee College Public Relations Association; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Hal Ramer is most grateful for the time spent on his avocations, which include antiques, photography, and antique cars; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Ramer epitomizes the spirit and commitment that are characteristic of a true Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, This General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Dr. Ramer for his dedication to the State of Tennessee and to salute his 30 years of service as President of Volunteer State Community College; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Dr. Hal Ramer for his 30 years of meritorious service to Volunteer State Community College and for his lifetime of service to the State of Tennessee and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.